

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4938

To ensure that older adults and individuals with disabilities are prepared  
for disasters, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 6, 2021

Mr. LANGEVIN (for himself, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. SIRES, Ms. NORTON, Mr. KILMER, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. BOWMAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Education and Labor, and Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To ensure that older adults and individuals with disabilities  
are prepared for disasters, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Real Emergency Ac-  
5       cess for Aging and Disability Inclusion for Disasters Act”  
6       or the “REAADI for Disasters Act”.

1     **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

2         (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-  
3         ings:

4             (1) In the United States, according to the Cen-  
5             ters for Disease Control and Prevention, there are  
6             more than 61,000,000 adults who are individuals  
7             with disabilities and, according to the Bureau of the  
8             Census, there are more than 47,800,000 adults age  
9             65 or older.

10            (2) There have been more than 80 hurricanes,  
11            resulting in thousands of deaths, in the United  
12            States since 2005.

13            (3) The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Ad-  
14            ministration estimates that—

15              (A) the cumulative damage from weather-  
16              and climate-related disasters in 2017 cost the  
17              United States over \$300,000,000,000; and

18              (B) 17 of the disasters in 2017 cost over  
19              \$1,000,000,000 each.

20            (4) Individuals with disabilities and older adults  
21            have been found to die at higher rates, compared to  
22            the general population, during disasters.

23            (5) According to the Federal Emergency Man-  
24            agement Administration—

1                             (A) more than 48,000,000 people were af-  
2                             fected by hurricanes and wildfires between Au-  
3                             gust and December of 2017; and

4                             (B) more than 12,000,000, or one quarter,  
5                             of those peoples were adults who were individ-  
6                             uals with disabilities.

7                             (6) An estimated 70 percent of the deaths at-  
8                             tributed to Hurricane Maria in 2017 were to people  
9                             age 70 or older.

10                            (7) Failure to provide accessibility for, or plan  
11                             for accommodating, individuals with physical or sen-  
12                             sory disabilities, chronic illness, or mental disabilities  
13                             decreases the ability of those individuals to evacuate  
14                             prior to or during a disaster.

15                            (8) Households of individuals with disabilities  
16                             are more likely to need assistance and are less likely  
17                             to be able to evacuate in advance of disasters.

18                            (9) Less than a third of individuals with intel-  
19                             lectual disabilities and individuals needing personal  
20                             care attendants have planned with their personal  
21                             care providers what to do in a disaster.

22                            (10) Evacuation information, including orders,  
23                             is not uniformly communicated in ways and via  
24                             media that are accessible to individuals with disabil-  
25                             ties, including being communicated in ways that

1 lack use of American Sign Language, captions, and  
2 plain language on websites, instructional materials,  
3 and television and radio announcements.

4 (11) Displaced individuals with disabilities  
5 served in general population shelters have better ac-  
6 cess to information and material resources than indi-  
7 viduals with disabilities in specially designed shel-  
8 ters.

9 (12) Despite better access to information and  
10 resources, personnel in general population shelters  
11 often do not have the resources or training to ad-  
12 dress the needs of individuals with disabilities and  
13 older adults.

14 (13) Public shelters often do not have dis-  
15 ability-related accommodations, often forcing individ-  
16 uals with disabilities and older adults to be seg-  
17 regated, sometimes apart from their families and  
18 natural supports during disasters.

19 (14) Households with individuals with disabil-  
20 ities sustain more costly property damage from dis-  
21 asters than households without individuals with dis-  
22 abilities.

23 (15) Historically, disaster-related recommenda-  
24 tions for individuals with disabilities and older  
25 adults have been typically aimed at caregivers and

1 service providers, not individuals with disabilities  
2 and older adults.

3 (16) Thousands of individuals with disabilities  
4 have been denied their civil rights because they do  
5 not receive accessible notice during disasters—

6 (A) of spoken instructions via phone or  
7 video; or

8 (B) of instructions regarding evacuations,  
9 sheltering, and other procedures during disas-  
10 ters.

11 (17) Disaster shelters and services do not rou-  
12 tinely have American Sign Language interpreters  
13 nor procedures written or presented in plain lan-  
14 guage.

15 (18) Individuals with disabilities and older  
16 adults are more at risk for loss of life, loss of inde-  
17 pendence, or violation of civil rights than the general  
18 population during times of disasters, response, and  
19 recovery.

20 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
21 gress that—

22 (1) individuals with disabilities and older adults  
23 should be supported during times of disasters, and  
24 during disaster preparedness, response, recovery,  
25 and mitigation in order to—

1                             (A) ensure maintenance of and access to  
2                             services and supports; and

3                             (B) enable those individuals and adults to  
4                             return to their communities in a timely manner  
5                             as compared with the general population;

6                             (2) during the recovery and mitigation phases  
7                             of disaster response, all buildings and services  
8                             should be designed, and constructed or recon-  
9                             structed, according to principles of universal design  
10                            and to the standards established by the Architec-  
11                            tural and Transportation Barriers Compliance  
12                            Board in order to ensure access for individuals with  
13                             disabilities, older adults, and all individuals;

14                            (3) individuals with disabilities and older adults  
15                             should have access to shelters and other services  
16                             during disasters in the same locations and settings  
17                             as the general population;

18                            (4) individuals with disabilities and older adults  
19                             should receive information about preparation for, re-  
20                             sponse to, recovery from, and mitigation of disasters  
21                             in formats accessible to them, including in American  
22                             Sign Language, Braille, and plain language, as well  
23                             as captioned video messages;

24                            (5) individuals with disabilities and older adults  
25                             must be included as key speakers, essential stake-

1       holders, and decisionmakers in the preparation (in-  
2       cluding planning), response, recovery, and mitigation  
3       phases of disasters;

4                 (6) local, State (including territorial), tribal,  
5       and Federal disaster planning must include robust  
6       representation of individuals with disabilities and  
7       older adults; and

8                 (7) individuals with disabilities and older adults  
9       must be included in the evaluation of governmental,  
10      VOAD, and other nongovernmental preparation (in-  
11      cluding planning), response, recovery, and mitigation  
12      of disasters.

13 **SEC. 3. PURPOSES.**

14       The purposes of this Act are to—

15                 (1) improve the inclusion of individuals with  
16       disabilities and older adults in the preparation for,  
17       response to, recovery from, and mitigation of disas-  
18       ters;

19                 (2) ensure the rights of individuals with disabil-  
20       ties and older adults, to be free from discrimination  
21       in programs and activities, are included during all  
22       phases of disaster preparation, response, recovery,  
23       and mitigation;

24                 (3) ensure compliance with the Americans with  
25       Disabilities Act of 1990, the Rehabilitation Act of

1       1973, and other disability laws during preparation  
2       for, response to, recovery from, and mitigation of  
3       disasters;

4               (4) improve coordination, among individuals  
5       with disabilities and older adults, government agen-  
6       cies, centers for independent living, VOADs, and  
7       other nongovernmental organizations, including or-  
8       ganizations that represent and are comprised of cov-  
9       ered individuals; in preparing (including planning)  
10      for, responding to, recovery from, and mitigation of  
11      disasters; and

12               (5) improve outcomes for all individuals, includ-  
13      ing individuals with disabilities and older adults, who  
14      are affected by disasters, and increase community  
15      resilience in responding to disasters.

16 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

17       In this Act:

18               (1) ACCESS AND FUNCTIONAL NEEDS.—The  
19      term “access and functional needs”, used with re-  
20      spect to an individual, means an individual with  
21      needs such as—

22                       (A) an individual with a disability;  
23                       (B) an older adult;  
24                       (C) an individual with limited English pro-  
25      ficiency;

1                             (D) an individual with limited access to  
2                             transportation that would enable the individual  
3                             to prepare for, respond to, recover from, and  
4                             mitigate a disaster; or

5                             (E) an individual with limited access to the  
6                             financial resources that would enable the indi-  
7                             vidual to prepare for, respond to, recover from,  
8                             and mitigate a disaster.

9                             (2) ALL HAZARDS APPROACH.—The term “all  
10                             hazards approach” means planning for natural,  
11                             technological, or human-caused incidents that war-  
12                             rant action to—

13                             (A) protect life, property, the environment,  
14                             or the public health or safety; and

15                             (B) minimize disruptions of school activi-  
16                             ties.

17                             (3) CIVIL RIGHTS.—The term “civil rights” or  
18                             “rights”, used with respect to an individual, means  
19                             the existing legal rights of an individual to be free  
20                             from discrimination on the basis of disability or age  
21                             in programs and activities.

22                             (4) COVERED INDIVIDUAL.—The term “covered  
23                             individual” means an individual with a disability, an  
24                             older adult, and an individual with access and func-  
25                             tional needs.

1                         (5) DISABILITY INCLUSIVE EMERGENCY MAN-  
2 AGEMENT EXPERIENCE.—The term “disability inclu-  
3 sive emergency management experience”, used with  
4 respect to an individual or entity—

5                         (A) means an individual or entity that  
6 has—

7                             (i) demonstrated disability leadership  
8 experience, including working with non-  
9 governmental entities; and

10                         (ii) subject matter expertise in leading  
11 disability inclusive preparedness, response,  
12 recovery, and mitigation initiatives that  
13 focus on meeting the rights of covered in-  
14 dividuals who are affected by disasters, to  
15 be free from discrimination in programs  
16 and activities; and

17                         (B) includes an individual or entity that  
18 has demonstrated favorable outcomes that  
19 measure the effective communication access,  
20 physical access, program access, health, safety,  
21 and independence of individuals affected by dis-  
22 asters and their communities.

23                         (6) DISASTER.—The term “disaster” means an  
24 emergency or major disaster (as such terms are de-  
25 fined under section 102 of the Robert T. Stafford

1      Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42  
2      U.S.C. 5122) that results in severe property dam-  
3      age, deaths, or multiple injuries.

4                (7) DISASTER SERVICES.—The term “disaster  
5      services” means the process of responding to a dis-  
6      aster and providing humanitarian aid to individuals  
7      and communities who are affected by a disaster.

8                (8) DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECTED.—The  
9      term “disproportionately affected”, used with re-  
10     spect to a group, means a group of individuals with  
11     protected status, including individuals with disabil-  
12     ities or older adults, who are excessively adversely  
13     affected by disaster-related harms.

14               (9) INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY.—

15               (A) SINGLE.—The term “individual with a  
16     disability” means an individual with a dis-  
17     ability, as defined in section 3 of the Americans  
18     with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.  
19     12102).

20               (B) PLURAL.—The term “individuals with  
21     disabilities” means more than one individual  
22     with a disability, as defined in subparagraph  
23     (A).

24               (10) OLDER ADULT.—The term “older adult”  
25     means a resident who is age 50 or older.

1                     (11) RESIDENT.—The term “resident” means a  
2 resident of a State or area governed by an Indian  
3 Tribal Government (as such term is defined in sec-  
4 tion 102 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief  
5 and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122)).

6                     (12) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary”  
7 means the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

8                     (13) STATE.—The term “State” means any of  
9 the 50 States, Indian Tribal Government, the Dis-  
10 trict of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto  
11 Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam,  
12 American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the  
13 Northern Mariana Islands.

14                     (14) VISITABILITY STANDARDS.—The term  
15 “visitability standards” means standards for Type C  
16 (Visitable) Units under the Standards for Accessible  
17 and Usable Buildings and Facilities (ICC A117.1–  
18 2009), or any successor standards, of the American  
19 National Standards Institute.

20                     (15) VOLUNTARY AGENCY ACTIVE IN DIS-  
21 ASTER.—The term “Voluntary Agency Active in Dis-  
22 aster” or “VOAD” means a nongovernmental orga-  
23 nization assisting in disaster preparation, recovery,  
24 response, or mitigation.

1 **SEC. 5. USE OF DISASTER RESPONSE FUNDS.**

2       Section 615 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief  
3 and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5196d) is  
4 amended—

5               (1) by striking “Funds made available” and in-  
6 serting the following:

7               “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

8                       “(1) ACCESS AND FUNCTIONAL NEEDS.—The  
9 term ‘access and functional needs’, used with respect  
10 to an individual, means an individual with needs  
11 such as—

12                       “(A) an individual with a disability;

13                       “(B) an older adult;

14                       “(C) an individual with limited English  
15 proficiency;

16                       “(D) an individual with limited access to  
17 transportation that would enable the individual  
18 to prepare for, respond to, or recover from, and  
19 mitigate a disaster; or

20                       “(E) an individual with limited access to  
21 the financial resources that would enable the in-  
22 dividual to prepare for, respond to, recover  
23 from, and mitigate a disaster.

24               “(2) COVERED RECIPIENT.—

25                       “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘covered re-  
26 cipient’ means a direct or indirect recipient of

1           funds made available under this title for a cov-  
2           ered use of funds; and

3           “(B) EXCLUSION.—The term ‘covered re-  
4           cipient’ does not include individuals or house-  
5           holds.

6           “(3) COVERED USE OF FUNDS.—The term ‘cov-  
7           ered use of funds’ means the use of funds for the  
8           preparation for, response to, recovery from, or miti-  
9           gation of hazards.

10          “(4) INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY.—

11          “(A) SINGLE.—The term ‘individual with a  
12           disability’ means an individual with a disability,  
13           as defined in section 3 of the Americans with  
14           Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12102).

15          “(B) PLURAL.—The term ‘individuals with  
16           disabilities’ means more than one individual  
17           with a disability, as defined in subparagraph  
18           (A).

19          “(5) OLDER ADULT.—The term ‘older adult’  
20           means a resident who is age 50 or older.

21          “(6) VISITABILITY STANDARDS.—The term  
22           ‘visitability standards’ means standards for Type C  
23           (Visitable) Units under the Standards for Accessible  
24           and Usable Buildings and Facilities (ICC A117.1–

1       2009), or any successor standards, of the American  
2       National Standards Institutes.

3       “(b) USE OF FUNDS GENERALLY.—Funds made  
4       available”; and

5               (2) by adding at the end the following:

6       “(c) ADVISORY COMMITTEES.—A covered recipient  
7       shall ensure that an advisory committee that includes indi-  
8       viduals with disabilities, older adults, and other individuals  
9       with access and functional needs oversees the use of funds  
10      made available under this title by the covered recipient.

11      “(d) COMPLIANCE WITH DISABILITY LAWS.—A cov-  
12     ered recipient shall use funds made available under this  
13     title in accordance with the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29  
14     U.S.C. 701 et seq.) and the Americans with Disabilities  
15     Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.).

16      “(e) CENTERS FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING.—A cov-  
17     ered recipient may contract with 1 or more centers for  
18     independent living (as defined in section 702 of the Reha-  
19     bilitation Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 796a)) to—

20               “(1) prepare for hazards;

21               “(2) provide personal assistance services during  
22       response and recovery periods;

23               “(3) identify accessible emergency shelters and  
24       adapt emergency shelters to be accessible;

1           “(4) develop accessible media, including media  
2       using American Sign Language; and

3           “(5) meet other needs for individuals with dis-  
4       abilities, older adults, and individuals with access  
5       and functional needs.

6           “(f) CONTRACTORS.—A nongovernmental organiza-  
7       tion that enters into a contract with a covered recipient  
8       relating to a covered use of funds shall comply with the  
9       Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 701 et seq.) and  
10      the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.  
11      12101 et seq.) in providing property or services under the  
12      contract.

13           “(g) COMMUNICATIONS.—Communications relating  
14      to a covered use of funds by a covered recipient shall be  
15      made available in languages, including American Sign  
16      Language and other sign languages, used in the commu-  
17      nities receiving the communications.

18           “(h) ACCESSABILITY.—A covered recipient shall en-  
19      sure each facility or service made available in connection  
20      with a covered use of funds is accessible to individuals with  
21      disabilities, older adults, and other individuals with access  
22      and functional needs, including—

23           “(1) notifications relating to a hazard;  
24           “(2) evacuation notifications;

1               “(3) notifications relating to disaster services;

2               and

3               “(4) emergency shelters.

4               “(i) VISITABILITY.—A covered recipient that, as part  
5 of a covered use of funds, constructs or prepares dwelling  
6 units (including sleeping units) shall ensure that the dwell-  
7 ing units meet visitability standards.”.

8 **SEC. 6. TRAINING, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, AND RE-**

9               **SEARCH DISABILITY AND DISASTER CEN-**

10              **TERS.**

11              (a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to pro-  
12 vide financial support to eligible entities to create centers  
13 through which the eligible entities will—

14              (1) provide training and technical assistance to  
15 State, tribal, and local disaster relief, public health,  
16 and social service agencies in the implementation  
17 and enhancement of systemic and effective engage-  
18 ment policies, programs, and activities that ensure—

19              (A) that the needs and rights of covered  
20 individuals are addressed and implemented  
21 throughout all phases of disaster preparation,  
22 response, recovery, and mitigation; and

23              (B) the inclusion of covered individuals in  
24 the development of all State, tribal, and local  
25 disaster preparation plans;

- 1                         (2) assist Federal, State, local, tribal, and territorial disaster relief agencies in the coordination and integration of Federal, State (including territorial), tribal, and local services and programs to serve covered individuals in the least restrictive environment appropriate to their needs during a disaster;
- 7                         (3) conduct research and expand knowledge about covered individuals and their experiences during the preparation, response, recovery, and mitigation phases of disasters; and
- 11                         (4) discover, through research, and disseminate knowledge about, the most effective methods for—
- 13                             (A) protecting the civil rights of covered individuals during times of disasters;
- 15                             (B) including covered individuals in all phases of disaster preparation, response, recovery, and mitigation;
- 18                             (C) reducing their deaths, injuries and losses from disasters;
- 20                             (D) reducing the displacement and disproportionate effects of relocation after a disaster, including financial and social effects, on covered individuals; and
- 24                             (E) ensuring covered individuals are participants in the research, development, and dis-

1 tribution of evidence-based information regard-  
2 ing disasters.

3 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 (1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible enti-  
5 ty” means an entity or partnership of entities that—

6 (A) submits an application to the Sec-  
7 retary in accordance with subsection (e);

8 (B) is or includes an institution, or a non-  
9 governmental organization, that focuses on—

10 (i) serving the needs of individuals  
11 with disabilities; or

12 (ii) serving the needs of older adults;

13 (C) in the case of an entity or partnership  
14 with a disability focus, has a cross-disability  
15 service focus;

16 (D) has experience in conducting training,  
17 technical assistance, and research pertaining to  
18 consumer-directed community support services  
19 for covered individuals;

20 (E) includes covered individuals in posi-  
21 tions of leadership in the planning, manage-  
22 ment, and operation of the programs of train-  
23 ing, technical assistance, and research;

24 (F) has knowledge and experience per-  
25 taining to the implementation and enhancement

1           of systemic and effective engagement policies,  
2           programs, and activities that promote the inclu-  
3           sion, needs, and rights of covered individuals in  
4           preparation for, response to, recovery from, and  
5           mitigation of disasters; and

6                 (G) has, or will establish, an advisory  
7                 council or similar entity, of which at least 51  
8                 percent of the members are covered individuals.

9                 (2) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The  
10          term “institution of higher education” has the  
11          meaning given the term in section 101(a) of the  
12          Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)).

13                 (3) STAKEHOLDER GROUP.—The term “stake-  
14          holder group” means a group of individuals and or-  
15          ganizations that—

16                         (A) is committed to disability inclusive and  
17                         older adult inclusive disaster management;

18                         (B) includes covered individuals through-  
19                         out preparedness, response, recovery, and miti-  
20                         gation activities;

21                         (C) has leaders that include covered indi-  
22                         viduals;

23                         (D) has a governing or advisory board, of  
24                         which at least half of the members are covered  
25                         individuals; and

1                             (E) has a mission to inclusively serve cov-  
2                             ered individuals.

3                             (c) AUTHORITY FOR GRANTS.—The Secretary may  
4                             award grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible entities,  
5                             to provide for—

6                             (1) activities that include covered individuals in  
7                             the preparation (including planning) for, response  
8                             to, recovery from, and mitigation of disasters; and

9                             (2) research related to disasters and covered in-  
10                            dividuals.

11                             (d) AMOUNT AND PERIOD OF GRANTS.—

12                             (1) AMOUNT.—In awarding grants under this  
13                             section, the Secretary shall, to the extent prac-  
14                             ticable, award a grant to an eligible entity in an  
15                             amount that is not less than \$1,000,000 and not  
16                             more than \$3,000,000.

17                             (2) DISTRIBUTION.—The Secretary shall award  
18                             not fewer than two of the grants in each of the 10  
19                             Federal regions of the Department of Health and  
20                             Human Services. At least one grant in each region  
21                             shall be awarded to an eligible entity exclusively to  
22                             conduct training and technical assistance.

23                             (3) PERIODS.—The Secretary shall award the  
24                             grants for periods of 5 years, through an open com-  
25                             petition held at the end of each 5-year period. Eligible

1       ble entities that receive grants under this section  
2       may reapply for such grants at the end of the peri-  
3       ods.

4       (e) APPLICATIONS.—

5           (1) SUBMISSIONS.—To be eligible to receive a  
6       grant under this section, an entity shall submit an  
7       application to the Secretary at such time and in  
8       such manner as the Secretary may require.

9           (2) CONTENTS.—Each such application shall  
10      include, at a minimum, the following:

11           (A) A description of the applicant's dem-  
12       onstrated experience in providing training, in-  
13       formation, and support to individuals with dis-  
14       abilities in preparing for, responding to, recov-  
15       ering from, and mitigating disasters.

16           (B) A description of the applicant's dem-  
17       onstrated experience in providing training, in-  
18       formation, and support to older adults in pre-  
19       paring for, responding to, recovering from, and  
20       mitigating disasters.

21           (C) A description of the applicant's dem-  
22       onstrated experience in working with Federal,  
23       State, local, tribal, and territorial government  
24       agencies in preparing for, responding to, recov-  
25       ering from, and mitigating disasters.

1                             (D) A description of the steps the appli-  
2                             cant, acting through the center, will take to tar-  
3                             get services to low-income individuals and indi-  
4                             viduals identified as disproportionately affected  
5                             in disasters, including those individuals at  
6                             greatest risk of institutionalization.

7                             (E) An assurance that the applicant, act-  
8                             ing through the center, will—

9                                 (i) work with State, local, tribal, and  
10                              territorial disaster relief, public health, and  
11                              social service agencies to determine the  
12                              best means for delivery of services to ad-  
13                              dress the needs of covered individuals;

14                                 (ii) assist in establishing State, local,  
15                              tribal, and territorial disaster plans to ad-  
16                              dress the needs of both rural and urban  
17                              populations;

18                                 (iii) in carrying out activities under  
19                              the grant, conduct sufficient outreach to  
20                              centers for independent living, VOADs and  
21                              other nongovernmental organizations, in-  
22                              cluding organizations that represent and  
23                              are comprised of covered individuals;

24                                 (iv) include covered individuals in a  
25                              meaningful way in the development and

1                   execution of activities carried out under  
2                   the grant; and

3                         (v) communicate information on the  
4                   programs and systems developed under the  
5                   grant, in accessible formats and the lan-  
6                   guages, including American Sign Lan-  
7                   guage, of the communities being served.

8                 (f) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants for activities de-  
9                 scribed in this section, the Secretary shall give priority to  
10                eligible entities that—

11                         (1) demonstrate a minimum of 3 years of expe-  
12                   rience in actively conducting disability inclusive and  
13                   older adult inclusive disaster management;

14                         (2) propose activities to address the prepared-  
15                   ness, response, recovery, and mitigation needs of  
16                   covered individuals;

17                         (3) propose activities to address leadership de-  
18                   velopment in State, local, tribal, and territorial agen-  
19                   cies and covered individual advocacy organizations;

20                         (4) demonstrate ability to provide training that  
21                   uses experiential approaches and does not rely on  
22                   simulations;

23                         (5) demonstrate expertise preventing discrimi-  
24                   nation against covered individuals in programs and  
25                   provide activities and specific plans for achieving

1 and maintaining physical access, program access,  
2 and effective communication for covered individuals  
3 throughout all grant activities;

4 (6) demonstrate that the eligible entity involved  
5 will use measurable collaboration and partnership  
6 strategies with State, local, tribal, and territorial  
7 agencies, centers for independent living, VOADs,  
8 and other nongovernmental organizations, including  
9 organizations that represent and are comprised of  
10 covered individuals;

11 (7) demonstrate that the eligible entity will use  
12 measurable disaster outcomes strategies in carrying  
13 out grant activities;

14 (8) demonstrate the ability to quickly create  
15 products, such as videos, fact sheets, guidelines, and  
16 checklists, to be used in disaster management;

17 (9) employ constituents of the entity in deci-  
18 sionmaking positions;

19 (10) provide disability inclusive and older adult  
20 inclusive disaster management leadership skills de-  
21 velopment;

22 (11) demonstrate awareness of available re-  
23 sources in the community for meeting the prepared-  
24 ness, response, recovery, and mitigation needs of  
25 covered individuals; and

1                         (12) demonstrate expertise in promoting the  
2                         use of universal design (as defined in section 3 of  
3                         the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
4                         1003)), the philosophy of independent living (within  
5                         the meaning of that philosophy in title VII of the  
6                         Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 796 et seq.)),  
7                         intersectionality imperatives, and the social model of  
8                         disability.

9                         (g) USE OF FUNDS.—

10                         (1) IN GENERAL.—Grant funds made available  
11                         under this section shall be used only for activities  
12                         described in and approved by the Secretary as a part  
13                         of an application submitted under subsection (e), to  
14                         carry out—

15                         (A) a strategy designed to ensure the in-  
16                         clusion of covered individuals in the preparation  
17                         (including planning) for, response to, recovery  
18                         from, and mitigation of disasters; and

19                         (B) research to enhance the activities de-  
20                         scribed in subparagraph (A), using not more  
21                         than 25 percent of the grant funds to carry out  
22                         that research.

23                         (2) ACTIVITIES.—Such activities may include  
24                         initiatives that provide comprehensive training, tech-  
25                         nical assistance, development of funding sources,

1 and support to State, local, tribal, and territorial  
2 disaster relief, public health, and social service agen-  
3 cies and stakeholder groups, in order to ensure that,  
4 in carrying out disaster management planning and  
5 programs, the agencies and groups address the in-  
6 clusion, rights, and needs of covered individuals  
7 by—

8 (A) hiring personnel with direct knowledge  
9 of and experience with meeting the rights of  
10 covered individuals to be free from discrimina-  
11 tion in programs and activities;

12 (B) training staff of State, local, tribal,  
13 and territorial disaster, public health, and social  
14 service agencies on the needs and rights of cov-  
15 ered individuals, preferably through training by  
16 experts who are individuals with disabilities and  
17 experts who are older adults;

18 (C) creating partnerships between eligible  
19 entities, State, local, tribal, and territorial dis-  
20 aster relief, public health, and social service  
21 agencies, centers for independent living,  
22 VOADs, and other nongovernmental organiza-  
23 tions, including organizations that represent  
24 and are comprised of covered individuals;

- 1                     (D) assisting in the development and im-  
2                     plementation, in partnership with State, local,  
3                     tribal, and territorial disaster relief, public  
4                     health, and social service agencies, of plans that  
5                     will provide for a continuum of services to re-  
6                     move barriers to full engagement for covered in-  
7                     dividuals during a disaster and in preparedness  
8                     (including planning) for, response to, recovery  
9                     from, and mitigation of a disaster;
- 10                   (E) assisting in the creation of standards  
11                     and identification of funding sources for re-  
12                     building disaster-damaged housing and new  
13                     housing that is accessible, affordable, and dis-  
14                     aster-resilient;
- 15                   (F) assisting in the creation of standards  
16                     for homeowner and flood insurance coverage for  
17                     rebuilding disaster-damaged housing and new  
18                     housing that is accessible, affordable, and dis-  
19                     aster-resilient;
- 20                   (G) establishing universal design and ac-  
21                     cessibility standards, and establishing specifica-  
22                     tions for visitability (based on the visitability  
23                     standards), for achieving and maintaining equal  
24                     access for covered individuals throughout all

1           hazard mitigation and disaster resilience activi-  
2           ties;

3           (H) establishing initiatives to increase new  
4           and transferred technology and innovations to  
5           solve notification, evacuation, health mainte-  
6           nance, and other barriers for covered individ-  
7           uals before, during, and after disasters; and

8           (I) conducting research, in partnership  
9           with covered individuals, that will contribute to  
10          knowledge and strategies to—

11           (i) decrease injuries, deaths, and harm  
12          to covered individuals;

13           (ii) create inclusive disaster prepared-  
14          ness, recovery, response, and mitigation  
15          strategies for State, local, tribal, and terri-  
16          torial, centers for independent living,  
17          VOADs, and other nongovernmental orga-  
18          nizations, including organizations that rep-  
19          resent and are comprised of covered indi-  
20          viduals;

21           (iii) preserve community living options  
22          and access to needed services and supports  
23          for covered individuals during post-disaster  
24          periods; and

1                         (iv) conduct longitudinal studies that  
2                          create and maintain datasets to assist in  
3                          the understanding of State, local, tribal,  
4                          and territorial policies designed to reduce  
5                          the negative impact of disasters on covered  
6                          individuals and protect the rights of cov-  
7                          ered individuals to be free from discrimina-  
8                          tion in programs and activities.

9                          (3) STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES.—The Sec-  
10                         retary shall establish standards and guidelines for  
11                         activities supported by a grant under this section.  
12                         Such standards and guidelines shall be developed  
13                         with the input of stakeholder groups. In a situation  
14                         in which a refinement or adaptation of the standards  
15                         or guidelines is made necessary by a local cir-  
16                         cumstance, the Secretary shall enter into negotia-  
17                         tions with an eligible entity applying for such a  
18                         grant for a project in the affected area, to refine or  
19                         adapt the standards and guidelines for the project.  
20                          (h) INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS.—Notwithstanding any  
21                         other provision of this section, no entity, agency, or group  
22                         assisted under this section shall take any action that in-  
23                         fringes in any manner on the rights of covered individuals  
24                         to be free from discrimination in programs and activities.

1       (i) REPORTS.—Not later than January 31 of fiscal  
2 years 2024 and 2026, the Secretary shall submit to Con-  
3 gress a report describing the activities carried out under  
4 this section during the preceding 2 fiscal years.

5       (j) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
6 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
7 \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.

8 **SEC. 7. PROJECTS OF NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE.**

9       (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

10           (1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible enti-  
11 ty” means an entity or partnership of entities that—  
12              (A) submits an application to the Sec-  
13 retary at such time, in such manner, and con-  
14 taining such information as the Secretary may  
15 reasonably require;

16              (B) is or includes an institution (which  
17 may be an institution of higher education), or  
18 a nongovernmental organization, that focuses  
19 on—

20                  (i) serving the needs of individuals  
21 with disabilities; or

22                  (ii) serving the needs of older adults;  
23              (C) in the case of an entity or partnership  
24 with a disability focus, has a cross-disability  
25 service focus;

1                             (D) has experience in conducting training,  
2                             technical assistance, and research pertaining to  
3                             consumer-directed community support services  
4                             for covered individuals;

5                             (E) includes covered individuals in posi-  
6                             tions of leadership in the planning, manage-  
7                             ment, and operation of the programs of train-  
8                             ing, technical assistance, and research;

9                             (F) has knowledge and experience per-  
10                             taining to the implementation and enhancement  
11                             of systemic and effective engagement policies,  
12                             programs, and activities that promote the inclu-  
13                             sion, needs, and rights of covered individuals in  
14                             preparation for, response to, recovery from, and  
15                             mitigation of disasters; and

16                             (G) has, or will establish, an advisory  
17                             council or similar entity, of which at least half  
18                             of the members are covered individuals.

19                             (2) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The  
20                             term “institution of higher education” has the  
21                             meaning given the term in section 6(b).

22                             (b) GRANTS, CONTRACTS, AND COOPERATIVE  
23                             AGREEMENTS.—

24                             (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award  
25                             grants to, or enter into contracts or cooperative

1 agreements with, eligible entities on a competitive  
2 basis to carry out projects of national significance  
3 that—

4 (A) create opportunities for individuals  
5 with disabilities and older adults to directly con-  
6 tribute to improving preparation for, recovery  
7 from, response to, and mitigation of disasters;

8 (B) support the development of State,  
9 local, tribal, and territorial policies that rein-  
10 force and promote the inclusion of individuals  
11 with disabilities and older adults in Federal,  
12 State, local, tribal, and territorial community  
13 preparation for disasters; and

14 (C) support research that—

15 (i) tracks, in the short-term and long-  
16 term, the effects of disasters on individuals  
17 with disabilities and older adults;

18 (ii) identifies evidence-based practices  
19 that enhance inclusion of individuals with  
20 disabilities and older adults to participate  
21 in and lead preparation for disasters at  
22 Federal, State, local, tribal, and territorial  
23 levels;

24 (iii) leads to the creation of strategies  
25 and procedures to implement community

1           level practices that decrease deaths, inju-  
2           ries, and harm resulting from disasters to  
3           individuals with disabilities and older  
4           adults;

5                 (iv) contributes to the protection of  
6                 the rights of covered individuals to be free  
7                 from discrimination in programs and ac-  
8                 tivities, and self-determination of those in-  
9                 dividuals and adults, while also promoting  
10                their safety and well-being during and fol-  
11                lowing disasters;

12                 (v) contributes to the development of  
13                 Federal, State, local, tribal, and territorial  
14                 policies that enhance collaboration among  
15                 governmental entities, centers for inde-  
16                 pendent living, VOADs, and other non-  
17                 governmental organizations, including or-  
18                 ganizations that represent and are com-  
19                 prised of covered individuals, to improve  
20                 the inclusion of covered individuals in  
21                 preparation for, response to, recovery from,  
22                 and mitigation of disasters; and

23                 (vi) contributes to other efforts, as de-  
24                 termined by the Secretary, to advance the  
25                 purposes of this section.

1                             (2) AMOUNT, QUANTITY, AND DURATION.—In  
2 awarding grants or entering into contracts or coop-  
3 erative agreements under this section, the Secretary  
4 shall—

5                             (A) to the extent practicable, ensure that  
6 each such grant, contract, or cooperative agree-  
7 ment is for an amount that is not less than  
8 \$1,000,000 and not more than \$3,000,000;

9                             (B) award or enter into not less than 4  
10 grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements;  
11 and

12                             (C) ensure that each such grant, contract,  
13 or cooperative agreement is for a period of not  
14 less than 3 years and not more than 5 years.

15 **SEC. 8. NATIONAL COMMISSION ON DISABILITY RIGHTS  
16 AND DISASTERS.**

17                             (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2811C(c) of the Public  
18 Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300hh–10d) is amended—

19                                 (1) in paragraph (1) by striking “17 members”  
20 and inserting “44 members”; and

21                                 (2) in paragraph (2) by adding at the end the  
22 following:

23                                 “(N) 11 members, representing the dis-  
24 ability community and reflecting the diverse  
25 characteristics of its members, who shall—

- 1                 “(i) represent individuals with disabil-  
2                 ties with a wide variety of disabilities and  
3                 disaster experiences, including cross-dis-  
4                 ability representation;
- 5                 “(ii) be geographically diverse;
- 6                 “(iii) be ethnically and racially di-  
7                 verse;
- 8                 “(iv) be of diverse ages, and include  
9                 older adults;
- 10                 “(v) represent both genders, and in-  
11                 clude members that represent a variety of  
12                 sexual orientations and gender identities;
- 13                 “(vi) include veterans; and
- 14                 “(vii) be linguistically diverse.
- 15                 “(O) Representative from each of—
- 16                 “(i) a coastal State emergency man-  
17                 agement agency with an employee in a po-  
18                 sition with established duties relating to in-  
19                 tegration of individuals with disabilities or  
20                 to addressing access and functional needs;
- 21                 “(ii) a noncoastal State emergency  
22                 management agency with an employee in a  
23                 position described in clause (i);

- 1                     “(iii) a tribal emergency management  
2                     agency with an employee in a position de-  
3                     scribed in clause (i);  
4                     “(iv) a territorial emergency manage-  
5                     ment agency with an employee in a posi-  
6                     tion described in clause (i);  
7                     “(v) a nongovernmental organization  
8                     providing disaster preparedness and re-  
9                     sponse services;.  
10                    “(vi) a local urban disaster manage-  
11                    ment entity, which representative has dis-  
12                    ability inclusive emergency management  
13                    experience;  
14                    “(vii) a local rural disaster manage-  
15                    ment entity, which representative has dis-  
16                    ability inclusive emergency management  
17                    experience;  
18                    “(viii) a local disability organization  
19                    with a cross-disability focus;  
20                    “(ix) a State disability organization  
21                    with a cross-disability focus;  
22                    “(x) a national disability organization  
23                    with a cross-disability focus;  
24                    “(xi) a national older adults organiza-  
25                    tion;

1                         “(xii) the Council of the Inspectors  
2                         General on Integrity and Efficiency;

3                         “(xiii) a low-income housing organiza-  
4                         tion, who has expertise in the civil rights  
5                         of disaster-affected covered individuals;  
6                         and

7                         “(xiv) a representative of a legal serv-  
8                         ices agency with expertise in the civil  
9                         rights of disaster-affected covered individ-  
10                         uals.

11                         “(P) The Secretary of the Department of  
12                         Transportation.

13                         “(Q) The Director of Disability Policy at  
14                         the Domestic Policy Council.”.

15                         (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
16                         authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
17                         \$500,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2025.

18                         **SEC. 9. REVIEW OF SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS RELATED**  
19                         **TO DISASTERS AND INDIVIDUALS WITH DIS-**  
20                         **ABILITIES AND OLDER ADULTS.**

21                         (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

22                         (1) CHIEF OF THE DISABILITY RIGHTS SEC-  
23                         TION.—The term “Chief of the Disability Rights  
24                         Section” means the Chief of the Disability Rights

1       Section of the Civil Rights Division of the Depart-  
2       ment of Justice.

3                     (2) COMMITTEE.—The term “Committee”  
4       means the advisory committee established under  
5       subsection (b).

6                     (3) COVERED COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS.—The  
7       term “covered committee of Congress” means—

8                         (A) the Committee on Health, Education,  
9                         Labor, and Pensions and the Committee on  
10                       Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
11                       of the Senate; and

12                         (B) the Committee on Education and  
13                         Labor, the Committee on Transportation and  
14                         Infrastructure, and the Committee on Energy  
15                         and Commerce of the House of Representatives.

16                     (4) COVERED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT.—The  
17       term “covered settlement agreement” means a set-  
18       tlement agreement—

19                         (A) entered into by the United States dur-  
20                         ing the period beginning on January 1, 2005,  
21                         and ending December 31 of the year of enact-  
22                         ment; and

23                         (B) that relates to a potential violation of  
24                         the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 701  
25                         et seq.) or the Americans with Disabilities Act

1           of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.) in connec-  
2           tion with the preparation for, response to, re-  
3           covery from, or mitigation of a disaster.

4         (b) ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEE.—There is es-  
5         tablished an advisory committee to review covered settle-  
6         ment agreements.

7         (c) MEMBERSHIP.—

8           (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after  
9           the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney Gen-  
10          eral shall appoint the members of the Committee,  
11          which shall include—

12           (A) employees of the Department of Jus-  
13          tice; and

14           (B) not less than 3 disability rights advo-  
15          cates who—

16           (i) are not employees of the Federal  
17          Government;

18           (ii) are individuals with disabilities;  
19          and

20           (iii) have disability inclusive emer-  
21          gency management experience.

22         (2) PERIOD OF APPOINTMENT; VACANCIES.—

23           (A) IN GENERAL.—A member of the Com-  
24          mittee shall be appointed for the life of the  
25          Commission.

1                             (B) VACANCIES.—Any vacancy in the  
2                             Committee—

3                                 (i) shall not affect the powers of the  
4                             Committee; and  
5                                 (ii) shall be filled in the same manner  
6                             as the original appointment.

7                             (3) CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON.—  
8                             The members of the Committee shall elect a Chair-  
9                             person and a Vice Chairperson from among the  
10                            members, not less than one of whom shall be a  
11                            member appointed under paragraph (1)(B).

12                            (4) MEETINGS.—

13                            (A) IN GENERAL.—The Committee shall  
14                             meet at the call of the Chairperson.

15                            (B) QUORUM.—A majority of the members  
16                             of the Committee shall constitute a quorum, but  
17                             a lesser number of members may hold hearings.

18                            (d) DUTIES.—The Committee shall—

19                                 (1) conduct a review of each covered settlement  
20                             agreement;

21                                 (2) review annual reports and recommendations  
22                             provided to each covered committee of Congress re-  
23                             lating to addressing the needs of covered individuals  
24                             in the preparation for, response to, recovery from, or  
25                             mitigation of a disaster;

1                         (3) not later than 1 year after the date of en-  
2                         actment of this Act, submit a report containing the  
3                         findings and recommendations of the Committee  
4                         to—

5                             (A) each covered committee of Congress;  
6                             (B) any other entity of Congress with ju-  
7                         risdiction over matters relating to addressing  
8                         the needs of covered individuals in the prepara-  
9                         tion for, response to, recovery from, or mitiga-  
10                         tion of a disaster;

11                         (C) the Attorney General;  
12                         (D) the Secretary of Education;  
13                         (E) the Secretary of Homeland Security;  
14                         (F) the Secretary of Health and Human  
15                         Services;

16                         (G) the Secretary of the Department of  
17                         Transportation; and

18                         (H) the President, through the Director of  
19                         Disability Policy at the Domestic Policy Coun-  
20                         cil; and

21                         (4) provide the comments and recommendations  
22                         described in section 10(b)(2).

23                         (e) POWERS OF COMMITTEE.—

24                         (1) HEARINGS.—The Committee may hold such  
25                         hearings, sit and act at such times and places, take

1 such testimony, and receive such evidence as the  
2 Committee considers advisable to carry out this sec-  
3 tion.

4 (2) INFORMATION FROM FEDERAL AGENCIES.—

5 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Committee may  
6 secure directly from any Federal department or  
7 agency such information as the Committee con-  
8 siders necessary to carry out this section.

9 (B) FURNISHING INFORMATION.—On re-  
10 quest of the Chairperson of the Committee, the  
11 head of the department or agency shall furnish  
12 the information to the Committee.

13 (C) DISABILITY RIGHTS SECTION.—The  
14 Chief of the Disability Rights Section shall sub-  
15 mit to the Committee a report on the oversight  
16 of covered settlement agreements a sufficient  
17 period of time before the date specified in sub-  
18 section (d)(3) to allow the Committee to review  
19 the report and include the report of the Chief  
20 of the Disability Rights Section in the report of  
21 the Committee under subsection (d)(3).

22 (3) POSTAL SERVICES.—The Committee may  
23 use the United States mails in the same manner and  
24 under the same conditions as other departments and  
25 agencies of the Federal Government.

## 1       (f) COMMITTEE PERSONNEL MATTERS.—

## 2           (1) COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS.—

3               (A) IN GENERAL.—A member of the Com-  
4               mittee who is not an officer or employee of the  
5               Federal Government shall be compensated at a  
6               rate equal to the daily equivalent of the annual  
7               rate of basic pay prescribed for level IV of the  
8               Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title  
9               5, United States Code, for each day (including  
10              travel time) during which the member is en-  
11              gaged in the performance of the duties of the  
12              Committee.

13               (B) FEDERAL MEMBERS.—A member of  
14              the Committee who is an officer or employee of  
15              the United States shall serve without compensa-  
16              tion in addition to that received for service as  
17              an officer or employee of the United States.

18               (2) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—A member of the  
19              Committee shall be allowed travel expenses, includ-  
20              ing per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates author-  
21              ized for employees of agencies under subchapter I of  
22              chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, while  
23              away from their home or regular places of business  
24              in the performance of services for the Committee.

25               (3) STAFF.—

1                             (A) IN GENERAL.—The Chairperson of the  
2                             Committee may, without regard to the civil  
3                             service laws (including regulations), appoint  
4                             and terminate an executive director and such  
5                             other additional personnel as may be necessary  
6                             to enable the Committee to perform the duties  
7                             of the Committee, except that the employment  
8                             of an executive director shall be subject to con-  
9                             firmation by the Committee.

10                            (B) COMPENSATION.—The Chairperson of  
11                             the Committee may fix the compensation of the  
12                             executive director and other personnel without  
13                             regard to chapter 51 and subchapter III of  
14                             chapter 53 of title 5, United States Code, relat-  
15                             ing to classification of positions and General  
16                             Schedule pay rates, except that the rate of pay  
17                             for the executive director and other personnel  
18                             may not exceed the rate payable for level V of  
19                             the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of  
20                             that title.

21                            (4) DETAIL OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.—  
22                             Any Federal Government employee may be detailed  
23                             to the Committee without reimbursement, and such  
24                             detail shall be without interruption or loss of civil  
25                             service status or privilege.

1                             (5) PROCUREMENT OF TEMPORARY AND INTER-  
2                             MITTENT SERVICES.—The Chairperson of the Com-  
3                             mittee may procure temporary and intermittent serv-  
4                             ices under section 3109(b) of title 5, United States  
5                             Code, at rates for individuals which do not exceed  
6                             the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay  
7                             prescribed for level V of the Executive Schedule  
8                             under section 5316 of that title.

9                             (g) TERMINATION OF COMMITTEE.—The Committee  
10                           shall terminate 90 days after the date on which the Com-  
11                           mittee submits the report required under subsection  
12                           (d)(3).

13                             (h) REPORTS BY DISABILITY RIGHTS SECTION.—On  
14                           and after the date on which the Committee submits the  
15                           report required under subsection (d)(3), the Chief of the  
16                           Disability Rights Section shall publish an annual report  
17                           on the oversight of settlement agreements relating to dis-  
18                           aster preparation, response, recovery, and mitigation ac-  
19                           tivities.

20                             **SEC. 10. GAO REPORT ON PAST USE OF DISASTER FUNDS.**

21                             (a) INVESTIGATION.—Not later than 60 days after  
22                           the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General  
23                           of the United States shall begin to conduct an investiga-  
24                           tion of whether, on or after January 1, 2005, Federal  
25                           agencies have complied with the Americans with Disabil-

1      cities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.), and the Reha-  
2      bilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 701 et seq.), in expend-  
3      ing Federal funds to prepare for, respond to, recover from,  
4      or mitigate disasters, including whether and, if so, how  
5      such funds were used to ensure accessibility to services  
6      and supports for individuals with disabilities and older  
7      adults.

8                (b) REPORT.—

9                (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after  
10         the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller  
11         General shall, in accordance with paragraph (2),  
12         issue a report on the investigation conducted under  
13         subsection (a), along with recommendations for re-  
14         mediation of any misused funds identified.

15                (2) REVIEW.—

16                (A) IN GENERAL.—Prior to issuing the re-  
17         port under paragraph (1), the Comptroller Gen-  
18         eral shall obtain comments and recomme-  
19         ndations on a draft version of the report, including  
20         the recommendations described in subparagraph  
21         (B), from the National Advisory Committee on  
22         Individuals with Disabilities and Disasters and  
23         any other agency determined appropriate by the  
24         Secretary.

1                             (B) COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS ON  
2                             ADDITIONAL SOURCES.—The recommendations  
3                             obtained under subparagraph (A) shall include  
4                             recommendations from the Commission regard-  
5                             ing additional sources the Comptroller General  
6                             may interview for purposes of the investigation  
7                             under subsection (a).

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